AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A beverage making apparatus comprising:

a heated water tank;

a heating element operatively associated with the heated water tank for heating water therein;

the heated water tank defining an inlet aperture therein for receiving water to be disposed in the heated water tank; [[and]]

a fill tube positioned in the heated water tank and positioned in alignment with the inlet aperture;

an insulating tube positioned in the fill tube communicating with the inlet aperture for receiving water there through and providing water to the heated water tank; and

a gap being defined between the outside of the insulating tube and inside of the fill tube for providing additional insulation .

2. (original) The beverage making apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a fitting for attachment to a heated water tank and the insulating tube.

3. (original) The beverage making apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the fitting being formed of an insulating material.

4. (original) The beverage making apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a gasket for use with the fitting for sealing the fitting.

5. (original) The beverage making apparatus of claim 1, further comprising the fitting having barbs formed thereon for retaining the tube on the fitting.

6. (currently amended) A kit for installing an insulating tube in a heated water tank, the kit comprising:

an insulating tube formed of a thermally insulating material being sized and dimensioned for installation [[in a]] inside of a fill tube of the heated water tank for delivering water to the heated water tank

a gap being defined between the outside of the insulating tube and inside of the fill tube for providing additional insulation; and

a fitting for attachment to a heated water tank and the insulating tube.

7. (original) The kit as in claim 6, further comprising the fitting being formed of an insulating material.

8. (original) The kit as in claim 6, further comprising a gasket for use with the fitting for sealing the fitting.

9. (original) The kit as in claim 6, further comprising the fitting having barbs formed thereon for retaining the tube on the fitting.

10. (currently amended) A method for reducing heat transfer in a heated water tank, The method comprising the steps of:

providing a heated water tank;

providing a heating element operatively associated with the heated water tank for heating water therein;

a fill tube positioned in the heated water tank and positioned in alignment with the inlet aperture;

providing an inlet aperture in the heated water tank for receiving water to be disposed in the heated water tank;

providing an insulating tube positioned in the fill tube communicating with the inlet aperture for receiving water there through;

a gap being defined between the outside of the insulating tube and inside of the fill tube for providing additional insulation; and

dispensing water through the insulating tube for disposing unheated water into the heated water tank.

11. (currently amended) An insulation assembly for use in a beverage producing apparatus of the type having a heated water tank to deliver water to the heated water tank, a heating element operatively associated with the heated water tank for heating water therein, the heated water tank defining an inlet aperture therein for receiving water to be disposed in the heated water tank, the insulating insulation assembly comprising:

a fill tube positioned in the heated water tank and positioned in alignment with the inlet aperture;

an insulating tube formed of a thermally insulating material being sized and dimensioned for installation in a heated water tank, the insulating tube positioned in the fill tube and communicating with the inlet aperture for receiving water there through and providing water to the heated water tank;

a gap being defined between the outside of the insulating tube and inside of the fill tube for providing additional insulation; and

a fitting for attachment to a heated water tank and the insulating tube.